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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EMPLOYEE.

JC893 U.S. PTO  
09/664071  
09/18/00  


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Nobuhisa YODA *et al.*

Title: INFORMATION INPUT DEVICE

Appl. No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: September 18, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR  
PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56 AND MPEP § 724**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached hereto is a Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement submitting proprietary information to the Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and MPEP § 724. Applicants respectfully request that the information be considered only by the Examiner in charge of the above-caption application, or other authorized Patent and Trademark Office employee.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Johnny A. Kumar

September 18, 2000

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**PROPRIETARY MATERIAL NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC.  
TO BE OPENED ONLY BY EXAMINER OR OTHER AUTHORIZED  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EMPLOYEE.**

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

***Attorney Docket No. 016907/1140***

Applicant: Nobuhisa YODA *et al.*

Title: INFORMATION INPUT DEVICE

Appl. No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: September 18, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56 AND MPEP § 724**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a listing of a copending U.S. patent application which contains similar subject matter to the above-identified application.

Serial Number      Filing Date

09/527,465      March 17, 2000

Applicants consider the aforementioned document and the disclosure of its existence as a pending application to constitute proprietary information. Accompanying this Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement is a transmittal letter indicating that the materials contained herein are proprietary, as required by MPEP § 724.02.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the foregoing information and provide in the next official communication the information set forth in MPEP § 724.04(a), particularly the information under item (3), so that the applicants

Attorney Docket No. 016907/1140

can, if appropriate, subsequently file a petition to expunge those materials, as provided according to MPEP § 724.05.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within three months of filing date of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

September 18, 2000

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Nobuhisa YODA et al.  
Title: INFORMATION INPUT DEVICE  
Appl. No.: Not yet assigned  
Filing Date: September 18, 2000  
Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each of the listed documents is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission herewith of any document is not intended as an admission either that such document constitutes competent prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive the right to take appropriate action to antedate any document that does not constitute a statutory bar and that is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application, or to otherwise remove such a document as a competent reference.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application. No fee is due.

However, in the event that the Patent Office determines that a fee is due for the filing of this document, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

**RELEVANCE OF THE DOCUMENT**

The relevance of documents A1 and A2 is described in the present specification. English translations of documents A1 and A2 are not readily available; however, the absence of such a translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). English language abstracts are provided for documents A1 and A2.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

9/16/2000  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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SHEET 1 OF 1

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99-38700

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: September 18, 2000				ATTY DOCKET NO.: 016907/1140		SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned	
				APPLICANT: Nobuhisa YODA et al.			
				FILING DATE September 18, 2000			GROUP: Not yet assigned
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	A1	10-312456	11-24-98	Japan			Abstract
	A2	62-267876	11-20-87	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.